

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 8-14, 22-28, 32, and 33 are pending in this application.

Claims 8-13, 22-27, 32, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fooyontphanich et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,205,429 (hereinafter "Fooyontphanich").

Claims 14 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fooyontphanich.

Summary of 06/03/04 Telephonic Interview

On June 3, 2004, the Examiner and his supervisor, Carl Arbes, conducted a telephonic interview with the undersigned agent regarding the outstanding rejection of the claims. Although no official final agreement was reached, the Examiner indicated that more details regarding the pushing feature could lead to patent coverage. Applicant has formalized amendments regarding such detail and submits it for the Examiner's further consideration.

II. Reply to the Rejection of Claims 8-13, 22-27, 32, and 33 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 8-13, 22-27, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fooyontphanich. The Examiner contends that Fooyontphanich

"teaches that the coils are deflected circumferentially along the core face and guided in a circumferential direction with respect to the axis toward their slots by deflecting pins" (Office action, page 2). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention, as defined by independent claims 8, 22, and 32, relates to methods for inserting a coil, or a portion thereof (which consists of a plurality of substantially parallel wire lengths), into a dynamoelectric machine component. A portion of a stretch of the coil is pushed into the slot such that all of the wire lengths are displaced from a first position in a common direction having a circumferential component with respect to the axis of the machine component's bore. The capability of pushing the stretch in a direction having a circumferential component with respect to the longitudinal axis is beneficial for inserting coils into machine component slots that are difficult to access from the axial region of the bore (see, e.g., paragraph [0006] of applicant's specification).

Fooyontphanich refers to inserting coils into machine stator assemblies having radially inward facing slots. A coil guiding device 65 having tapered surfaces 67 is used to guide the coils during the insertion process. Deflecting pins are used to prevent damage to the slot insulators.

The Examiner contends that the incidental "squishing" of the coils by the deflection pins in Fooyontphanich teaches a method of inserting prepared or pre-wound coils into a stator by "pushing the stretch portion into the slot in a circumferential direction with respect to the axis" (10/29/03 Office Action, page 4). However, even if Fooyontphanich were able to impart any hint of circumferential motion, it is limited to this haphazard and incidental "squishing" in various directions. In stark contrast, applicant's invention as defined by independent claims 8, 22, and 32 comprises displacing all of the wire lengths of a portion of a stretch in a common direction. In other words, the portion of the stretch is translated by a pushing motion having a circumferential component with respect to the axis. Fooyontphanich fails to show such a pushing motion and common direction of displacement.

Thus, Fooyontphanich fails to show each and every feature of applicant's claimed invention, as defined by independent claims 8, 22, and 32. Therefore, the rejection of claims 8-13, 22-27, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn.

III. Reply to the Rejection of Claims 14
and 28 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 14 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fooyontphanich. Claims 14 and 28 depend from independent

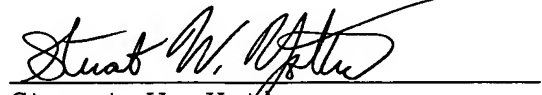
claims 8 and 22, respectively. For at least the reasons discussed above, independent claims 8 and 22 have been shown to be allowable over Fooyontphanich. Therefore, dependent claims 14 and 28 are allowable, and the rejection of claims 14 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 8, 22, and 32 are allowable. Claims 9-14, 23-28, and 33, which depend from independent claims 8, 22, and 32, are allowable because independent claims 8, 22, and 32 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 8-14, 22-28, 32, and 33 be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that this patent application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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